

CONFIDENTIALCLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONFIDENTIAL/NO DISSEM~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Information from Letzling Heath

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 22 September 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

50X1-HUM

1. [redacted] about 30,000 Soviet troops were in the Born-Planken area at Letzling Heath (N 53/Y 53) between 16 and 25 August 1950.
2. Six trucks, each towing a heavy mortar and carrying soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were seen on the Haldensleben (N 53/Y 51) Born road on 17 August 1950.
3. Trucks [redacted] were loaded with ammunition at the Haldensleben railroad station and left toward Born.
4. Motor vehicles observed at Camp Born and Camp Planken between 16 and 25 August 1950.

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5. [redacted] tanks and heavy artillery moved into Camp Planken on 23 and 24 August 1950. [redacted] the Helmstedt Born road was dug-up by tracked vehicles.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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6. Loaded railroad cars were assembled into a train at the Haldensleben railroad station on 21 August 1950. About 15 tanks, several SP guns, 2 field kitchens, 8 trucks and, in 13 boxcars, troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, were observed on the train.

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Comment. Headquarters units of the Third Shock Army and elements of the 19th Gds Pocz Div and the 207th Itz Rifle Div were still in the maneuver area of Letzling Heath on 25 August 1950.

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Comment. a train with troops and another train with tanks were unloaded in Olmstedt and Collitz on 19th and 21 August 1950.

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The observation of the 57th Gds Itz Rifle Div agrees with information on the unloading of tanks and SP guns of this Division in Haldensleben on 1 August 1950.

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Motor vehicle belonging to elements of the Eighth Gds Army were reported from Letzling Heath for the first time. It is not believed that the troops unloaded in Olmstedt and Collitz belonged to the Eighth Gds Army because they came from Jüterbog and Patzkorn. Since elements of the 20th and 21st Pz Pocz Divs of the Eighth Gds Army moved to Letzling Heath for short tactical demonstrations after mid-July 1950 along with elements of the 57th Gds Itz Rifle Div, it seems possible that elements of the 220th Div Tank SP Regt also went to that area.

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